THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) 25 broad categories of industries were delicensed in March, 1985. Subsequently, additional 82 bulk drugs and formulations based thereon, were also delicensed.

(b) to (d) It was announced in the press note dated 25th April, 1985 that the de-licensed industrial undertakings could apply for registration with the Secretariat for Industrial Approvals in the Department of Industrial Development. Registration is granted to the units which fulfil the following three conditions :—

(i) The industrial undertaking does not fall within the purview of MRTP Act or Foreign Exchange Regulation Act;

(ii) The article of manufacture is not reserved for small scale sector; and

(iii) The industrial undertaking is not located or proposed to be located :—

(1) Within the Standard Urban Limits, as determined in the Census of India, 1981, of a city having a population or more than 10 lakhs; and

(2) Within the Municipal Limits of a city with a population of more than 5 lakhs; as determined in the said Census.

Recommendations of Committee of Secretaries on use of foreign trade marks

645. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a committee of secretaries has recommended to readily allow the use of foreign trade marks; and

(b) if so, how does a foreign trade mark help the quality of a product?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) and (b) There has been no change in Government's policy of not allowing foreign brand names on internal sales.

Price rise by tyre and tube manufacturers

646. DR. H. P. SHARMA:

SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA:

SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the All India Motor Transport Congress has sought a comprehensive action plan by Government to tackle the unilateral price rise by manufacturers of tyres and tubes;

(b) if so, whether this demand arose as a result of a sharp rise in prices of various types of auto tyres and tubes during the past one and a half year;

(c) the extent of rise in prices of each type of tyres/tubes registered during the period; and

(d) what is the Government's response to this demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) and (b) Following the post-budget increase in price of tyres. The All India Motor Transport Congress have suggested certain measures to achieve a fair and reasonable pricing policy for tyres.

(c) and (d) Indian Tyre Industry manufactures over two hundred varieties of tyres with about five hundred tread patterns. The price of

tyres differ from company to company. Different tyre companies have increased the prices of various types of tyres manufactured by them at different times and also allowed substantial discounts on prices during the period which have not been fully reflected in the market prices.

Tyres are not subject to any price or distribution control. However, a close watch is being maintained by the Government over prices of tyres as well as their raw materials.

Lohia scooter

647. DR. H. P. SHARMA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of Lohia scooters have been increased disproportionately beyond the market price estimated originally;

(b) if so, what was the original price per scooter and what is its present market price;

(c) to what specific factors such abnormal rise in prices is attributable; and

(d) whether any steps are contemplated to bring this high fuel efficiency scooter within the reach of the common man?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) to (c) The ex-factory price of Lohia Scooter excluding excise duty increased from Rs. 9,600 to its present level of Rs. 11,355 on 9-9-84. According to the information furnished by the company, the increase in prices has taken place on account of the following factors:

(i) Escalation in the cost of imported components used in the scooter, on account of fluctuation in currency rates, and

(ii) Increase in the prices of inputs like steel, aluminium, non-ferrous metals, tyres, etc.

(d) Government have licensed sufficient capacity and built up in production capability of various makes of two-wheelers generating a situation in the market where two-wheelers are likely to be easily available at competitive prices.

Liberalisation of industry

648. SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recently taken some measures for the liberalisation of industry; and

(b) whether some quarters have expressed doubts that this may indirectly affect the location policy and lead to concentration of industry in easily accessible areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) and (b) Government have recently announced certain liberalisations which include broadbanding in certain industries within the same capacity raising the Limit of small scale to Rs. 35 lakhs,upward revision of the thrashhold limit for MRTP companies from Rs. 20 crores to Rs. 100 crores and delicensing of certain selected industries. This policy is not likely to affect the locational policy. Further in regard to the scheme of de-licensing it has been specifically provided that the industrial undertaking should not be located within the standard urban area limits of a city having a population of more than 10 lakhs or within the municipal limit of a city having a population of more than 5 lakhs.

Elections in Punjab and Assam

649. SHRI VITHALBHAI MOTIRAM PATEL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to hold elections in the States of Pun-